
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Public Notice of Pending Site Cleanup Closure Former Joslyn Electronic Systems Corporation 6868 Cortona Dr., Goleta, California

November 18, 2021

The Water Board is providing this notification to the landowners, residents, tenants, and interested parties near this groundwater cleanup site to notify you of planned site closure, and to solicit comments.

This notification describes the site history and justification for site closure.

La Junta de Aguas de la Costa Central proporciona esta notificación a propietarios, inquilinos y partes interesadas cercanas a este sitio de limpieza de las aguas subterráneas para notificarles sobre el cierre planificado del sitio y solicitar sus comentarios. Esta notificación describe el historial del sitio y la justificación para el cierre del sitio. Si desea obtener información en español, póngase en contacto con Monica Barricarte al (805) 549-3881.

Introduction

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) is the California State regulatory agency responsible for overseeing soil and groundwater cleanup at the former Joslyn Electronic Systems Corporation (Joslyn) site (Site) located at 6868 Cortona Drive, northeast of the intersection between Hollister Avenue and Storke Road in Goleta, California (Figure 1). Since 1993, the Central Coast Water Board has required the responsible parties to investigate, monitor, and cleanup the impacted soil and groundwater beneath the Site. This notification is intended to inform the public and other stakeholders about plans to close the cleanup Site, provide supporting information, and to seek input on the planned closure of the Site.

Background

Soil and groundwater were contaminated by a leaking clarifier used in nickel metal plating and copper etching at the Site that began operations in 1964. Joslyn removed the clarifier in 1979 and replaced it with a double-contained subgrade impoundment and ceased operations in 2002. Joslyn's operations resulted in solvent impacts to soil and groundwater beneath the Site. The solvents detected in soil and groundwater were

DR. JEAN-PIERRE WOLFF, CHAIR | MATTHEW T. KEELING, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

primarily tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE), with other associated solvents. Soils were also analyzed for various metals, including nickel and copper. The metals did not exceed concentrations that are protective of workers and occupants in a commercial setting. According to site investigation results and groundwater monitoring data, solvent-impacted groundwater is limited to the area below the Site.

Rationale for Closure

In addition to extensive groundwater monitoring conducted at the Site since 1993, cleanup actions included:

- Removal of a plating facility and appurtenances in 2002.
- A multiphase extraction system (MPE) that removed impacted soil vapor and groundwater from the ground using a high vacuum pump, network of remediation wells, and above-ground water treatment system. Between July 2004 and March 2007, the MPE extracted and treated 155 pounds of solvents from impacted vapor and removed and treated 657,000 gallons of impacted groundwater.
- Joslyn operated a groundwater pump and treatment system between December 2000 and February 2012 to provide hydraulic control of the solvent plume and treated 16.4 million gallons (50.4 acre-feet) of solvent-impacted groundwater in the process.
- In 2014, enhanced bioremediation was conducted in two phases to further reduce solvents concentrations in groundwater.
- Indoor air monitoring results indicate that there is no unacceptable health risk from vapor intrusion into the commercial building at the site.

Significant reductions in solvents were accomplished because of the cleanup actions. The maximum concentration of TCE in groundwater at the Site was 620 micrograms per liter in 2006, with TCE concentration declining post-treatment to 30 micrograms per liter in the most recent sampling event. Although the cleanup has not achieved the drinking water standard (5 micrograms per liter for TCE), the groundwater impacts are localized, relatively shallow and, therefore, do not threaten drinking water supply wells. In addition, because of ongoing biodegradation and other natural processes, the groundwater plume is expected to decline in concentration and cleanup to below the drinking water standard within a reasonable timeframe.

Before site closure is granted, the impacted property above the solvent source area will have a land-use covenant, filed with the Santa Barbara County Recorder's Office, that restricts the land for commercial use and prohibits installation of supply wells near the source area on the property. A soil management plan for the site will ensure proper handling of graded or excavated soil near the source area.

A case closure summary form¹ includes historical and most recent information on soil, soil vapor, and groundwater concentrations detected and cleanup actions performed at the Site.

Since the source of the solvents has been removed to the maximum extent practicable, groundwater cleanup has occurred to an economically and technically feasible extent, and the site investigation and post remediation monitoring results indicate decreasing concentrations in groundwater, Central Coast Water Board staff finds that there is no significant threat to human health or groundwater resources from residual pollution remaining at this site. No further groundwater monitoring, investigation, or cleanup is necessary at the site, based on evaluation of existing data and information.

Public Comment Period

The public is invited to comment over the next 30 days on the planned site closure of the former Joslyn Site. Site reports and other documents are available on GeoTracker at the following website address:

https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=SLT3S0801310

Open the “Site Maps/Documents” tab on the webpage and scroll to the appropriate title and date to access a desired document. If you would like more information, or if you wish to comment on the information provided, please contact Dean Thomas at the Central Coast Water Board.

All interested parties are invited to submit their comments to the Central Coast Water Board in writing on or before **December 20, 2021**, for Central Coast Water Board consideration. Comments should be addressed to:

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¹ Draft Case Closure Summary form: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?surl=qll3n>

